

	<p>United States Department of Agriculture</p> <p>Forest Service</p>	<p>NEWS RELEASE</p>	<p>KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST</p> <p>1711 South Main Street Yreka, CA 96097 (530) 841-6131 www.fs.usda.gov/klamath</p>	
<p>April 19, 2013</p>	<p>For Immediate Release</p>	<p>Media Contact: Jennifer Velez (530) 841-4485 or jvelez@fs.fed.us</p>		

Spring Burns Planned to Reduce Hazardous Fuels and Improve Forest Health

(Yreka, CA.) – The Klamath National Forest is planning to conduct several prescribed burns this spring to reduce the build-up of hazardous fuels and restore forest ecosystems. The burns will take place on the Salmon/Scott River, Happy Camp/Oak Knoll and Goosenest Ranger Districts between now and mid-June. The actual dates of ignition will depend on local weather and fuel conditions.

Prescribed fire projects planned on the Forest include burning piles of stacked materials and low to moderate intensity understory burns of vegetation on the forest floor. The main goals of these projects are to reduce the severity of future wildfires and provide added protection for communities in the wildland urban interface. In addition, the burns will promote a diverse and more resilient forest, and improve habitat for wildlife.

The following prescribed fire projects (with acreage and locations) are currently planned for this spring:

Salmon/Scott River Ranger District

Glassups - 330 acres of understory burning, approximately 1 mile south of Sawyers Bar, CA.

Deep - 200 acres of understory burning, approximately 15 miles west of Fort Jones, CA. (located in the Middle Creek drainage west of Scott River Lodge)

Contact: Fuels Specialist Josh Schmalenberger (530)468-1269

Happy Camp/Oak Knoll Ranger District

Jackson Peak - 274 acres of understory burning, approximately 3.5 miles north of Happy Camp, CA. (located east of Slater Butte)

Fryingpan Ridge & East Jackpot - 170 acres of understory burning, approximately 3 miles southeast of Happy Camp, CA.

West Branch – 4 acres of understory burning, approximately 10 miles northwest of Happy Camp, CA.

Contact: Fuels Specialist Matt Wattson at (530)465-1520

Goosenest Ranger District

Garner Ranch - 900 acres of understory burning, approximately 2 ½ miles north of Tennant, CA. (located along Forest Service Road 44N93)

Tennant - 1,156 acres of understory burning, approximately ½ to 4 miles east, northeast, and southeast from the town of Tennant, CA. (located along Long Prairie Road and Forest Service Road 77)

Jones - 207 acres of understory burning, approximately 7 miles west of Macdoel, CA. (located on the northeastern slopes of Goosenest Mountain)

Pile burning – burning of stacked materials is scheduled for 400 acres at various locations within the District

Contact: Fuels Specialist Ron McEwan at (530)398-5731

All prescribed fire projects will be conducted in accordance with an approved burn plan to ensure the safety of people and property in the area. These plans describe the specific conditions under which burns will be conducted including the weather, number of personnel, and opportunities to minimize smoke impacts.

Visitors are asked to avoid areas where prescribed burns are being conducted. Some spur roads near the burn areas may be inaccessible during operations. As a result of the burns, some residents and visitors may see or smell smoke. They may also witness glowing from the fires at night. People should not be alarmed; the fires will be carefully monitored. Local authorities will be notified prior to burn days and kept informed throughout burning operations.

For more information please contact the Fuels Specialist listed for the nearest Ranger District.

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The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The Agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to State and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world.